IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Masayuki KAWAKAMI et al. Examiner: JONES, Dameron Levest

Serial No.: 10/506,819 Group Art Unit: 1618

Filed: September 7, 2004

Title: NEAR INFRARED FLUORESCENT CONTRAST AGENT AND METHOD FOR

FLUORESCENCE IMAGING

REPLY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the office action of March 7, 2008, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.